



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 17, 2020

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors  
*Head Start Directors*

**FROM:** Dr. Scott M. Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent  
P-20 System and Student Transitions

**SUBJECT:** Head Start Agency Requirements During COVID-19 Closures

The governor has ordered the closure of all schools in the state as of Monday, March 16, 2020. The expected re-opening date is Monday, April 6, 2020.

In response to COVID-19, the federal Office of Head Start is advising Head Start grantees to coordinate with local health authorities and implement their existing policies and procedures related to closure of Head Start and Early Head Start centers during infectious disease outbreaks. Closure of centers in areas heavily impacted by COVID-19 is an important element of containing and limiting its spread.

While many Head Start and Early Head Start programs are following the lead of local school districts, most Michigan's Head Start programs are not administered by school districts/ISDs; therefore, it is important to communicate with Head Start leadership in your area. You can find your local Head Start program via the following link <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/center-locator>.

Please review the Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center, Office of Head Start link periodically for further updates at <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/physical-health/article/coronavirus-prevention-response>.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance  
Michigan Head Start Association

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